

Message Text

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ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

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R 151048Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 548
INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

CONFIDENTIAL TEL AVIV 9257

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS : PFOR, XF, XG

SUBJECT : MRS. MEIR'S TALKS AT SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL

REF: LONDON 13364 NOTAL

1. MRS. MEIR TOLD ME YESTERDAY THAT AT END OF LONDON SESSION NOV. 11 THERE WAS DISCUSSION OF RESUME TO BE GIVEN TO PRESS. GENERAL RULE AT MEETINGS OF INTERNATIONAL WAS THAT NO RESOLUTIONS OR COMMUNIQUES WERE ISSUED AFTERWARD, AND INSTEAD A PARTICIPANT WAS DESIGNATED TO BRIEF PRESS IN AGREED GENERAL TERMS.

2. MRS. MEIR SAID SOMEONE SUGGESTED THAT RESUME SHOULD NOTE SYMPATHY HAD BEEN EXPRESSED CONCERNING ISRAELI FALLEN SOLDIERS. MINTOFF QUICKLY INTERJECTED, "AND ARAB FALLEN TOO." MRS. MEIR TOLD GROUP SHE HAD NO OBJECTION TO MINTOFF'S AMENDMENT, PROVIDED NOTE WAS MADE THAT WAR RESULTED FROM ARAB ATTACK ON ISRAEL. MINTOFF STRONGLY OBJECTED AND ADDED HE WOULD INSIST THAT MALTESE REPRESENTATIVE BE PRESENT WHEN PRESS WAS BRIEFED. MRS. MEIR SAID THAT ISRAELI REPRESENTATIVE IN SUCH CASE SHOULD BE PRESENT TOO.

3. MRS. MEIR SAID AT THIS POINT IRISH PARTY LEADER CALLED WITH SOME EMOTION FOR INCLUSION OF REFERENCE TO RIGHTS OF PALESTINIAN ARABS. IRISHMAN THEN ADDRESSED APPEAL TO MRS. MEIR NOT TO LET CONFIDENTIAL

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ISRAEL BECOME MILITARIST OR RACIST STATE. MRS. MEIR REPLIED THAT IF IRELAND COULD BE IRISH STATE WITHOUT BEING LABELLED RACIST, SHE COULD NOT SEE WHY ANYONE WOULD CALL JEWISH STATE RACIST. MRS. MEIR TOLD ME SHE SUBSEQUENTLY LEARNED WHAT WAS AGITATING IRISHMAN:

HE HAD JEWISH WIFE. SHE COMMENTED WITH A LAUGH, "THAT'S WHY
HE'S ANTI-JEWISH" AND THAT ISRAEL HAD HAD LONG EXPERIENCE
WITH UNFRIENDLY FOREIGN LEADERS HAVING JEWISH WIVES.

KEATING

CONFIDENTIAL

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